

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 through 13 remain pending and have not been amended. New claims 14 through 19 are added to more broadly claim the invention in terms of the inventive features indicated by the Examiner in '830 patent's December 12, 2002 Notice of Allowability, that are applicable to both front engine - front drive (FF) based and front engine - rear drive (FR) based four-wheel drive vehicles. Since these claims are broader than those in the originally issued patent, Applicant respectfully submits that the support in the disclosure of the specification for the newly added claims is inherent.

It is noted that the claim amendments herein are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims, or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

With respect to the prior U.S. Application Serial No. 09/951,765, now Patent No. 6,546,830, Applicant hereby incorporates the claim of priority from Japanese Application No. 2000-280602, filed on September 14, 2000, and claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

The prior application is assigned of record to Fuji Jukogyo Kabushiki Kaisha at Reel 012472 and Frame 0357.

Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Reissue Application of  
U.S. Patent No.: 6,546,830  
Docket No. F05-132629M/MI  
NGB.080REISSUE

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Respectfully submitted,

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